

did provide an excellent example of true public service. Ms. Poundstone's retirement from lobbying will not mean the end of her service however, as she intends to remain active.

The contributions Ms. Poundstone has made to the Greenwood Village community have been invaluable, and she has truly helped to strengthen and develop the city into what it is today. I wish to thank her for her dedicated service and wish her the best of luck in her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO THE GRACE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a church in my district that recently celebrated a remarkable milestone. On July 2, the members of the Grace United Methodist Church in Houghton, Michigan celebrated their congregation's 150th anniversary. For the last century and a half, Grace United Methodist Church has been a place of worship, prayer and fellowship for the people of this community in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

In 1854, the same year that the Village of Houghton was founded, Reverend Lewis W. Earl organized the Portage Lake Class, which would become today's Grace United Methodist Church. Three years later, the small congregation resolved "to build a house of worship in Houghton," and construction began in the spring of 1859. Later that year, the structure, which was still being built, was moved to the corner lot that is the site of the present church, thanks to the generous gift of Mr. William Newcomb.

During the pastorate of Reverend C.V. Thompson from 1888 to 1893, the congregation decided to construct the elegant stone church building that is in use today. In June 1893, the completed church was dedicated with much ceremony. Several of the day's most prominent clergymen came to Houghton to give lectures or sermons as part of the dedication activities, including Reverend Earl Cranston, Reverend Joseph Frazer, Reverend Bishop Ninde, and Reverend A.R. Bartlett.

On the evening of November 24, 1916, tragedy struck as Grace Church was almost completely destroyed by fire. Fortunately, the red sandstone walls remained standing, which also protected the church's beautiful stained glass windows. While the members of Grace Church were understandably upset by this turn of events, the other churches of Houghton were quick to offer their assistance. As a result, services were held for several months in the Masonic Temple, and then for 2 years the congregation held joint services with the Presbyterian Church while Grace Church was being rebuilt.

Reconstruction of the church building was delayed by the start of World War I, and the congregation was not able to move back into its own church until 1918, when steps were taken to at least rebuild the basement level. Complete restoration of the church was finally achieved in 1924 when Reverend John E.

Lewin worked tirelessly to raise the necessary funds and secure a loan from the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Speaker, much has changed in the Grace United Methodist Church's first 150 years. After the church recovered from the 1916 fire, it continued to make improvements and expansions to accommodate its growing congregation. It has also received the guidance and leadership of a number of pastors from its founding by Reverend Earl to the current pastor, Reverend Tom Anderson. But throughout these changes, the members of the Grace United Methodist Church have been true to their faith and to each other.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House join me in congratulating the Grace United Methodist Church and its members on their first 150 years as a community of faith, and in wishing them well in their next 150.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LANDY
TAYLOR

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a kind and caring individual from Montrose, Colorado who is brightening the spirits of American soldiers in Iraq. Landy Taylor is reminding our troops that we support them and their noble mission, and I am proud to join my colleagues here today before this body of Congress and this Nation in recognizing his tremendous generosity and good will.

After receiving an email from Duane Ziegler, the chief of the Montrose Regional Airport fire department who is serving in Iraq with the Colorado National Guard, about the tough battle-front conditions Landy decided to start Operation Sweet Tooth. He figured that candy would help lift the soldiers' spirits and so he began to buy cases of candy, elk jerky, and other items and ship them off to the troops. Landy himself, is a former aviation executive and a veteran of the Army and wanted to be able to let our troops know of our Nation's support.

Since the initial shipment of more than seven thousand pieces of candy, Landy, and his wife Marta have shipped hundreds of pounds of candy and over 800 pounds of elk jerky. He often sends care packages daily and sometimes picks up the shipping costs of up to \$300 a week out of his own pocket. Most of the candy and snacks that are shipped go to four different military hospitals in Baghdad where they are distributed to patients, soldiers and Iraqi children.

Mr. Speaker, Landy Taylor is a generous individual who is actively involved in lifting the spirits of our American soldiers and demonstrating how much we appreciate their efforts in Iraq. He has inspired other citizens and friends within his community to aid the troops and I am honored to recognize him today before this body and this Nation for his devotion and commitment to our American soldiers. Thank you for your generosity Landy,

and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

HONORING HOWARD SNELL FOR
HIS SERVICE AND DEDICATION
TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize an outstanding veteran of World War II who dedicated much of his life in service to our country—Howard Snell of Tyler.

Mr. Snell devoted 21 years to service in the U.S. Navy, moving through the ranks from cook to chief sonar technician. During that time, he engaged in 17 World War II battles, including the infamous attack on Pearl Harbor and the monumental showdown at Midway.

Now at the age of 81, Mr. Snell has found himself in the middle of another battle—with cancer. Yet in a display of his trademark determination, Mr. Snell was one of the proud veterans present at the May 29 dedication of the National World War II Memorial in Washington. He postponed his first round of chemotherapy so that he could attend the ceremony, fearing that starting the treatment before his trip would cause him to miss the dedication—and that was simply not an option for this World War II veteran who serves as an official of the national Survivors of Pearl Harbor Association.

Throughout his life, Mr. Snell has upheld the high standards of conduct befitting a soldier and a gentleman. As we adjourn today, it is my privilege to recognize such an outstanding American and veteran—Mr. Howard Snell—and wish him well as he fights another of life's battles.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SIMON
MAGHAKYAN

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, today, I have the pleasure of celebrating a young person from my district, Simon Hakob Maghaky, who was elected executive vice president of the Sigma Phi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa.

Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for two-year colleges. Membership is based on academic achievement and members are also provided opportunities for growth and development in scholarship, leadership, fellowship and service.

Simon is attending Arapahoe Community College with a major in general science, with plans to transfer to University of California at Los Angeles. Given his demonstrated dedication to academics and hard work, I have no doubt he will be successful in all of his endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to honor Mr. Maghaky here today, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO INTER-
NATIONAL DECA COMPETITION
WINNERS

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to highlight the accomplishments of three teams of high school students. These teams competed at the 2004 DECA International Career Development Conference held in Nashville Tennessee, where they placed first in the categories they competed in.

These high school DECA teams have worked throughout the year to prepare for the international competition by preparing projects, competing in preliminary competitions, and expanding their understanding of the business industry.

Hanna Cunnane, Noah Funderburk and Laura Sullivan, from Cherry Creek High School placed in the Hospitality and Recreation Marketing Research competition. Monica Kremer, Charles Fuller and Lauren Blood, also students at Cherry Creek High School placed in Food Marketing Research. The team of Jessica Watts and Jennifer Bracht from Highlands Ranch High School placed in the Travel and Tourism Marketing Management Team Decision Making category.

DECA, the Distributive Education Club of America, was organized in 1946 to bring opportunities in marketing and management closer to students. Since then, the club has grown to have over 180,000 members. The DECA International Career Development Conference is the culmination of the DECA year and brings together thirteen thousand students, advisors and businesspersons for competition and education.

Mr. Speaker, the accomplishments of these students are only the beginning of the contributions they will make in the future. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO KEITH E.
HARMON ON THE OCCASION OF
HIS ELECTION AS STATE COM-
MANDER OF OHIO FOR THE VET-
ERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMER-
ICA

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding individual from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. On Saturday, June 26, 2004 Mr. Keith E. Harman, of Delphos, Ohio, was elected and installed as the State Commander of Ohio for the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States of America for the 2004–2005 year.

A Vietnam Veteran, Keith Harman served his country with honor and distinction from 1967 to 1969 while attached to A Troop, 2/17th Air Cavalry, 101st Airborne Division as a crew chief and door gunner on a Huey helicopter. Keith's honors include the Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, the Viet-

nam Campaign Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation Badge and the National Defense Service Medal.

Mr. Speaker, in 1983 Keith began his involvement in the VFW by becoming a Life Member of Post 3035 in Delphos, Ohio and in 1986, Keith was elected Post Commander of 3035. It was in this capacity that he embarked on a career of compassion, always wanting to assist veterans in need. Keith would hold the title of Commander of 3035 for three consecutive years until his election in 1990 to District 2 Commander, where he most recently served as Vice Commander of Ohio. In addition to his VFW duties, Keith has been involved in his fellow veterans' concerns by serving as the Van Wert County Veterans Service Officer for the past thirteen years.

As District 2 Commander, Keith has displayed great leadership by effectively communicating the mission at hand and adapting to the ever-changing world around him. Through his drive and leadership, Keith has worked tirelessly to increase the membership of the VFW, forge solid relationships with Ohio's communities, and advance the issues that affect veterans most.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Mr. Keith Harmon. Our communities are well served by having such honorable and giving citizens, like Keith, who care about their well being and stability. We wish Keith and his family all the best as we pay tribute to one of the Fifth District's finest citizens.

TRIBUTE TO THE BETHANY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a church in my district that has recently passed a remarkable milestone. On July 11, the members of the Bethany Lutheran Church in Isabella, Michigan celebrated their congregation's 100th anniversary. For a century, the Bethany Lutheran Church has been a place of worship, prayer, and fellowship for the people of this small farming community in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

On July 11, 1904, what was then the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church held its first meeting at the home of John Wester in Isabella. This first service was conducted by a seminarian, J.J. Youngren, who used Matthew 5:20–26 for his sermon. Reflecting the heritage of the community, Swedish was the primary language of the congregation for its first twenty years.

On December 26, 1904, the church's first ordained pastor, Reverend K.M. Holmberg, held his first service, using John 1:1–14 as the basis for his sermon. The following spring, the church purchased a half acre of land from one of its members, Mr. Jacob Carlson, where the church building stands to this day. By 1906, the church's Secretary, Mr. Martin Nyquist, was planning for the church building, and construction began on May 31, 1908. The church architect and chief carpenter was Fred Magnusson.

Just over four years later, on July 14, 1912, the congregation attended the first service in

the church's new home. Though there have been a number of improvements to the building, the congregation of the Bethany Lutheran Church still meets each Sunday in that original structure.

Mr. Speaker, much has changed in the Bethany Lutheran Church's first century. Always a small congregation, the church's membership has waxed and waned over the years from the original 39 members to the 17 of today. It has also received the guidance and leadership of a number of pastors from Reverend Holmberg to the current pastor, Reverend David Hueter. But throughout these changes, the members of the Bethany Lutheran Church have been true to their faith and to each other.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House join me in congratulating the Bethany Lutheran Church and its members on their first 100 years as a community of faith, and in wishing them well in their next 100.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO STEIN
ERIKSON

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker I rise today to pay tribute to a renowned ski racer from Aspen, Colorado. Stein Erikson has been a great ambassador for the sport of skiing and inspires many Americans and ski enthusiasts around the world. I am privileged to stand before this body of Congress and this Nation to recognize his accomplishments and commitment to the sport of skiing.

Initially Stein moved to Aspen from Norway in 1958 and has been racing and instructing skiers ever since. Stein won a gold and silver medal in the giant slalom, and slalom for the Norwegian ski team in the 1952 Oslo Olympics and several medals from the 1950 and 1954 World Championships. He is best known however for his ski school instruction. He began teaching at Boyne Mountain, Michigan and then moved to Heavenly Valley, California before landing at Aspen Highlands in Snowmass ski school. Recently Stein was inducted into the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame for his many contributions to the sport over the years.

Stein is famous for his execution of an aerial somersault that has since been dubbed the X games of the early days in Aspen ski history. He was the first skier to perform a forward flip or Moby flip that helped to usher in the beginning of freestyle skiing. Stein, who was knighted by the King of Norway in 1997 for his contributions to his home country's favorite sport remains an active fixture in the American skiing scene. Not only did he ski every day last ski season but he can outpace many skiers half his age and his trademark Norwegian sweaters that he made popular fifty years ago continue to warm skiers today.

Mr. Speaker Stein Erikson is an internationally accomplished skier that has been a great ambassador for his sport and inspired many Americans to chase after their dreams. He has enriched the lives of the members of his Aspen community and I am honored to recognize his achievements before this body of Congress and this nation today. Congratulations on your induction Stein, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.